

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 124541
ORIGIN SS-25

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DRAFTED BY D:DLAMB:LAB
APPROVED BY D - MR. CHRISTOPHER
S/S -O;LRMACFARLANE
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O 282120Z MAY 77 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY PARIS NIACT IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 124541

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, FR

SUBJECT: NUCLEAR ISSUES

1. PLEASE DELIVER FOLLOWING LETTER FROM THE SECRETARY TO
FOREIGN MINISTER DE GUIRINGAUD ON MONDAY, MAY 30. AS
SUBJECT MATTER IS OF HIGH INTEREST TO PRESIDENT GISCARD,
REQUEST COPY BE PASSED TO ELYSEE IF EMBASSY CONSIDERS THIS
APPROPRIATE.

2. BEGIN TEXT:

DEAR MR. FOREIGN MINISTER:

I UNDERSTAND THAT YOUR GOVERNMENT WILL SOON REVIEW ITS
POSITION ON AN IMPORTANT NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION ISSUE --
WHETHER COMPREHENSIVE SAFEGUARDS SHOULD BE REQUIRED AS A
GENERAL CONDITION OF NUCLEAR SUPPLY. SINCE THE NUCLEAR
SUPPLIERS GROUP WILL MEET IN LONDON JUNE 22-23 TO CONSIDER
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POSSIBLE CHANGES IN THE GUIDELINES FOR NUCLEAR TRANSFER,
AND SINCE THIS ISSUE WILL BE TAKEN UP IN LONDON, I WOULD
LIKE YOU TO KNOW MY GOVERNMENT'S VIEWS.

YOU MAY BE AWARE THAT PRESIDENT CARTER RECENTLY DECIDED
THAT THE UNITED STATES WILL MAKE ACCEPTANCE OF IAEA
SAFEGUARDS ON ALL OF THE RECIPIENT COUNTRY'S NUCLEAR

FACILITIES A CONDITION FOR CONTINUING NUCLEAR SUPPLY UNDER NEW OR AMENDED AGREEMENTS. THE LEGISLATION THE PRESIDENT HAS PROPOSED TO THE CONGRESS DOES NOT, HOWEVER, REQUIRE A FORMAL AGREEMENT OR COMMITMENT EQUIVALENT TO NPT ADHERENCE. RATHER, WE WILL REQUIRE AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL UNDERSTANDING THAT U.S. SUPPLY WILL TERMINATE IF NEW UNSAFEGUARDED FACILITIES ARE ACQUIRED. THIS APPROACH IS INTENDED TO GRANT DUE DEFERENCE TO THE SOVEREIGN RIGHTS OF RECIPIENT NATIONS, YET ENABLE OUR COUNTRY TO MEET ITS RESPONSIBILITY TO AVOID ENDANGERING WORLD SECURITY.

COMPATIBLE U.S. AND FRENCH POSITIONS ON COMPREHENSIVE SAFEGUARDS WOULD BE A MAJOR STEP TOWARD THE ACHIEVEMENT OF A STRENGTHENED INTERNATIONAL SAFEGUARDS SYSTEM. THIS WOULD BE EXTREMELY USEFUL IN DEALING WITH COUNTRIES -- ESPECIALLY INDIA -- THAT POSE MAJOR PROBLEMS FOR OUR MUTUAL NON-PROLIFERATION AND NUCLEAR EXPORT POLICY INTERESTS. THEREFORE, I HOPE THAT THE POSITION WE HAVE TAKEN WILL COMMEND ITSELF TO YOUR GOVERNMENT.

TO TURN, IF I MAY, FROM GENERAL POLICY TO SPECIFIC CASES, I KNOW THAT YOUR EXPORT OF A REPROCESSING PLANT TO PAKISTAN REMAINS UNDER CONTINUING REVIEW. WE APPRECIATE THE EFFORTS YOUR GOVERNMENT HAS MADE TO DELAY DELIVERIES. SINCE THE PRESENT TURMOIL IN PAKISTAN HAS REQUIRED US TO POSTPONE OUR PLANNED DISCUSSIONS WITH PRIME MINISTER BHUTTO ON THE REPROCESSING QUESTION, I VERY MUCH HOPE THAT YOU CAN AVOID FURTHER TRANSFERS OF SENSITIVE TECHNOLOGY. RESTRAINING PAKISTAN IS EVEN MORE IMPORTANT NOW THAT THERE ARE

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ENCOURAGING SIGNS OF A CHANGE IN INDIA'S POSITION ON NUCLEAR QUESTIONS. WE, OF COURSE, ARE PREPARED TO RESUME DISCUSSIONS WITH PAKISTAN AT THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE TIME.

SINCERELY, CYRUS VANCE. END TEXT. VANCE

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